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QR Code inside for Benson's Pet Center, Page 2

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November, 2025

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National Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day
International Human-Animal Bond Day
World Animal Enrichment Day
National Black Cat Day
National Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)
Thankful for My Dog Day
National Border Collie Day
November 28 | National Dog Show

Give your pets a hug for me!! Gayle

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Front Photo Credit: The Chinese Crested Dog is a hairless breed of dog (page 11). Photo credit-Bogdan Arhipov, www.unsplash.com.

SPOTLIGHT

U.S. Animal Shelter Statistics

Many shelters across the country are full, and animals, especially dogs, are often staying longer in their care before being adopted. This is creating a surplus of animals, and without enough adoptions, many shelters are struggling to meet the needs of animals in their communities. Shelters need support to reduce the length of time animals are staying in their care and to remove the barriers that prevent many people from adopting.

2024 Animal Shelter Statistics*

• 5.8 million dogs and cats entered shelters and rescues in 2024, down only slightly from the year before. The number of dogs and cats entering shelters and rescues last year is evenly split, with both populations contributing to the overall slight decline in shelter intake.

• The length of time dogs, especially large dogs, are staying in shelters before being adopted has increased in the last 5 years, adding strain to an already overburdened shelter system. This extended length of time animals are staying in shelters contributes to the ongoing capacity crisis, limiting space for new animals.

• 4.2 million shelter animals were adopted into loving homes in 2024, approximately the same number of animals adopted as the year before. Unfortunately, not enough animals were adopted to significantly reduce the number of dogs and cats in shelters nationwide.

• Approximately 607,000 animals were euthanized in shelters in 2024, decreasing by approximately 2% compared to 2023. In the past five years, euthanasia rates have dropped from 13% in 2019 to 8% in 2024.

• Approximately 2 million dogs were adopted in 2024, 554,000 were returned to their owner, 334,000 were euthanized, and 524,000 were transferred to other organizations.

• Approximately 2.2 million cats were adopted in 2024, 362,000 were returned to their owner or the field, 273,000 were euthanized, and 369,000 were transferred to other organizations.

Are there more animals in shelters now compared to previous years?

While the number of animals entering shelters has declined slightly since 2023, many shelters still have too many animals and not enough adoptions. With more animals staying longer in shelters, and multiple other factors converging simultaneously such as staffing and veterinarian shortages, as well as an increasing proportion of animals with greater medical and behavioral needs, many shelters continue to face an ongoing capacity crisis.

Where do most animals in shelters come from?

Although animals enter shelters for a variety of reasons, most dogs and cats entering shelters come in as strays (60% in 2024), followed by surrendered pets (29% in 2024) whose owners can no longer care for them due to unforeseen barriers.

Are fewer people adopting shelter animals?

The total number of dogs and cats adopted in 2024 is about the same as it was in 2023. Unfortunately, not enough animals are being adopted to significantly reduce the number of dogs and cats in shelters nationwide. The ASPCA is committed to helping shelters remove the barriers that prevent many families from adopting new pets, including a lack of access to pet-friendly housing and affordable veterinary care.

How is the ASPCA helping animal shelters and rescues across the country?

The ASPCA is proud to partner with hundreds of shelters and rescues across the country to help homeless dogs and cats through animal relocation, professional training, sharing vital resources, and legislative advocacy. With many shelters across the country seeing increasing proportions of animals with medical and behavioral challenges who require more intensive resources and support, the ASPCA is pioneering behavioral rehabilitation programs and enabling more shelters and rescues to treat behaviorally challenged animals to give them the best chance of finding a loving home. We also work directly with shelters to improve the health and welfare of homeless animals in communities by strengthening local shelter medicine programs and providing remote and on-site consultations. In addition, ASPCA training programs equip animal behavior, shelter and veterinary professionals with the tools, practices, and guidance they need to give animals the best chances to live happy, healthy lives in loving homes. *https://www.aspca.org/helping-shelters-people-pets/us-animal-shelter-statistics*

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HORSE CORRAL

Honoring Equine Veterans on Veterans Day

By Alex Valverde, Equine Advocates Communications Manager

Every Veterans Day, we pay special tribute to those who served in the United States Armed Forces. This includes equine veterans retired at our sanctuary in Chatham, New York. In addition to our continued rescue work, we're honored to provide a home for former Military Working Horses who served with the U.S. Army Caisson Platoon at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in Arlington, Virginia.

The Caisson Platoon of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, which transitioned to a detachment last year, consists of horses who escort the caskets of fallen service members to their final resting places at Arlington National Cemetery. The horses are paired into three teams. The lead team is in front, the swing team follows, and the wheel team pulls the caisson, or wagon that carries the caskets. There are also section horses who are ridden and positioned to the side of the procession, and in certain cases, a Riderless Horse who follows behind the procession. Our sanctuary is home to five retired Caisson Horses – Tyler, Sergeant York, Randy, King, and Amos.

Tyler, a Quarter Horse, was the first to retire at our sanctuary in 2021. During his nine years with the Caisson Platoon, he performed as a lead horse, a swing horse, and a section horse. After developing ringbone, a lameness condition that affects the pastern and coffin joints, in both front legs, he was medically retired.

Sergeant York, a Standardbred, was the second Military Working Horse to retire here after 25 years of service. At 34, he's the oldest of the group. He gained worldwide attention in 2004 when he was selected to be the Riderless Horse at the funeral of former President Ronald Reagan.

"For a quarter century, Sergeant York performed in thousands of military funerals and ceremonies," said Equine Advocates President Susan Wagner. "Because he served for such a long time, and because of his unforgettable appearance at President Reagan's funeral, he became a beloved equine hero similar to Black Jack, who became famous as the Riderless Horse at the funeral of former president John F. Kennedy in 1963. It is such a privilege to have Sergeant York retired at the sanctuary where visitors not only get to meet him but also get to learn about the important roles that horses perform in the U.S. military".

In 2023, we welcomed Randy, King, and Amos. Randy is a Percheron Cross who served for 12 years, performing in the lead and swing positions. King, a Percheron Draft, served for 16 years as a wheel horse. In addition to his missions at funerals and military ceremonies, King was so calm and dependable that he was used to help train the next generation of Caisson Horses. Amos, also a Percheron Draft, served this country for 14 years. Because of his sheer size and strength, he almost exclusively served as a wheel horse. Because Amos was also such a good riding horse, he occasionally served as a section horse. In 2021, he was part of the team that pulled the caisson at the funeral for General Colin Powell.

Tyler wearing his ceremonial halter. He served for nine years with the Caisson Platoon and was the first Caisson Horse to be retired at our sanctuary.

Since giving these horses a retirement home, Equine Advocates has gained a positive reputation among local veterans. We host an annual Veterans Day event where those who served or currently serve can meet the equine veterans at our sanctuary. We're also working to create a new program for veterans and veteran horses.

"We plan to call this program, 'Veterans to Veteran Horses,' and we're very excited about it," Wagner said. "Since our first Caisson Horse, Tyler, was retired here nearly five years ago, followed by the others who came afterwards, it became very apparent to us that those veterans had a real affinity and respect for these remarkable horses who also served the country. They saw them as fellow veterans, which they are. Through this program, we will be able to provide more former Military Working Horses with permanent retirement homes, which they deserve, while at the same time offering veterans the opportunity to work with and spend time with them in the quiet and peaceful environment of this sanctuary. We have the plans and the property for this new program, and are now in the process of raising the funds to build it."

We're honored to have these noble horses as a part of our family, and we honor each one for their positive impact on this country and our organization.

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This Side of Purradise

by Iris Bass

Special Attention

Handsome black-and-white Ollie not only deserves special attention—gentle, sweet-natured, and cuddly, he'd be the perfect lap cat—but he also comes with seriously needing your commitment to helping him stay healthy.

Ollie is FIV positive, meaning that at some point earlier in his life, he was infected with FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus)—the kitty equivalent to HIV, meaning that his immune system may not ward off infections as well as it might were he never exposed to the virus. Note that FIV cannot be transmitted to people, so there's no chance of YOUR catching it.

What it does mean is that Ollie needs to be indoors-only, in a cat-free home; never fed raw or spoiled foods that could mess up his digestion; and have more frequent vet checkups than the average cat, to ensure he stays in tip-top health. This last is important: If Ollie does pick up a secondary infection (say, reddened gums or an upset tummy beyond, say, a hairball) and it's treated quickly with appropriate antibiotics, he should respond well to medication; the goal is to stay ahead of anything that his compromised immune system might have difficulty fighting off. At eight years old—the feline equivalent of 50—he's certainly thrived till now, despite being FIV-positive. (Indeed, his age qualifies him for Berkshire Humane Society's "senior discount" on his adoption fee!)

Seriously, now: Please speak with the shelter staff about his condition—this is not a death sentence, just a situation that needs your informed care and vigilance. With a healthy diet, lots of love, regular checkups, and prompt veterinary attention to what, to you, might seem like just a minor health issue, Ollie may well enjoy the same life span that he might had he never caught FIV to begin with. Are you willing to assist him with this? He doesn't need nine lives—just one long, comfortable, contented one—with someone willing and able to look out for him!

Iris Bass, coauthor of the Cat Lover's Daily Companion, shares her Lee home with two shelter cats. Please contact Berkshire Humane Society's main shelter at 214 Barker Road, Pittsfield, MA, 413-447-7878. Confirm its hours before heading over, or check out https//:berkshirehumane.org to read more about Ollie, or the other cats currently available for adoption there or at Purradise, 301 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington, MA, 413-717-4244. Purradise is open for both adoptions and boarding.

Ollie. Copyright © 2025 Berkshire Humane Society

Columbia-Greene HUMANE SOCIETY/SPCA

Pictured with CGHS/SPCA Animal Care Technician Kim Hull is **Luna**, a beautiful 3-year-old American Staffordshire Terrier mix who found her way to us through no fault of her own. From the moment you meet her, you'll see just how much love she has to give; she's a total sweetheart who lives to make her humans happy. Luna is full of energy and enthusiasm for life! She would thrive in an active home where she can go on adventures, play to her heart's content, and enjoy plenty of exercise. A large, securely fenced yard would be a huge plus for this playful girl, but not required. While Luna adores people, she prefers to be the only dog in the home so she can have all the attention to herself. She does, however, seem to do just fine around cats.

Please call with any questions.

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Columbia-Greene
HUMANE SOCIETY/SPCA

Soft Paws
By Guest Columnist Aaron Clause

November has a way of changing the tempo of life. The air sharpens, the light fades earlier, and even familiar streets feel somehow different when dusk arrives before dinner. It's the month when the world exhales — softer, quieter, slower — and our animals feel that shift just as much as we do.

For us, it means flipping on headlights sooner and maybe brewing an extra cup of coffee to keep the evening going. For our pets, it's something deeper. Their internal clocks, guided as much by light as by habit, suddenly find themselves out of sync. Dinner seems late. Walks come at the wrong time. The outside world smells and sounds different — damp leaves, woodsmoke, distant engines echoing in the cold. What was once a routine backyard outing can now feel like a whole new landscape.

Dogs, especially, are guided by rhythm and scent. When the season changes suddenly, curiosity fills the gaps where routine used to be. That's when we start getting the calls — "My dog never wanders off, but tonight she did," or "He darted after something in the dark, and I couldn't see which way he went." It's not misbehavior; it's instinct mixed with wonder. The darkness makes sound travel farther and hides familiar landmarks. What's known becomes mysterious again — and for a curious canine, that mystery is irresistible.

So this time of year, it's worth taking a few extra precautions. Check your fences and gates before nightfall; a single frost-heaved post or a pile of leaves near a low spot can make the perfect escape route. Make sure tags and microchips are current. If you walk after sunset, reflective collars, leashes, or even a clip-on light can make a world of difference. And when your pet pauses to sniff the cold November air, remember — they're reading an entire story written in scent that we can't even begin to imagine.

I learned that lesson in a rather humbling way during my ten years as a Dog Control Officer. One evening I got a call from a nursing home just a few blocks from my house. The staff said

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they'd found an adorable, sweet pit bull who had wandered in and charmed everyone. She was gentle, polite — and, as they proudly added, "We're feeding her applesauce while we wait for you."

Naturally, I asked if the dog had identification. "Yes," they said, "she's licensed." Perfect, I thought — an easy reunion. I asked for the license number, scribbled it down, and then paused. That can't be right. I checked again. That's my dog's license number.

You can imagine the next few seconds. The sudden chill that wasn't from the weather. The mental image of my yard, my fence — and the absence of a certain four-legged escape artist named Dasha. Sure enough, when I got to the nursing home, there she was — tail wagging, face sticky with applesauce, looking every bit as pleased as if she'd discovered the world's best all-inclusive resort.

I was half mortified, half amused, and completely aware of what the moment was trying to teach me. Even the most loyal, content, well-fed dog can get the urge to follow a new scent, chase a drifting sound, or — in Dasha's case — accept an invitation to dinner with new friends.

So as the days shorten and the shadows stretch long, take a little extra care. Keep your pets close, keep their identification handy, and give them an extra moment to adjust to the new rhythm of the season. The world may look darker to us this time of year, but for them, it's alive with a thousand unseen stories carried on the November wind.

Feel free to call us with any questions at (518) 828-6044 or visit our website at www.cghs.org. Our Food Bank is open to any from the public in need of pet food or for those wishing to donate food from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Spay/neuter clinics for cats are $110.00 male or female, including a rabies vaccination and a 5-in-1 feline distemper combination vaccination. Nail clipping services are available every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the shelter for a donation of $10 for cats and $15 for dogs (currently prepaid only). Aaron is an Administrative Assistant at the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA. He may be contacted at cghsaaron@gmail.com.

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SPOTLIGHT

Ways to Spoil Your Senior Cat

November is National Adopt a Senior Pet Month, and it's the perfect time to bring a senior cat into your home and spoil them during their golden years. Check out these ways to spoil your cat, regardless of age.

When Is a Cat Considered a Senior?

It's not always easy to tell when your cat has crossed into their golden years. Many cats stay playful well into adulthood, and they may not show obvious changes right away. So, when is a cat considered a senior? Most veterinarians note that cats enter their senior stage around age 8, and may be classified as geriatric around age 11 to 14. Just like people, cats age at different speeds based on genetics, lifestyle, health history, and diet.

As cats grow older, they may experience gradual shifts that are easy to overlook. You might notice they nap more often, jump less, groom less thoroughly, or lose muscle tone. Some cats become more affectionate, while others prefer quieter routines and cozy resting spots.

Senior cats also face a greater likelihood of health challenges such as arthritis, kidney disease, diabetes, and dental issues. Spotting these changes early lets you support your cat's comfort and well-being.

This stage of life doesn't have to be a slowdown; it can actually be one of the most emotionally rewarding times with your pet. Senior cats often settle into a gentle rhythm, enjoying calm attention, soft pets, and regular companionship. By understanding when aging begins and how to support it, you can help your senior cat maintain a high quality of life and enjoy each day with comfort and confidence.

Give Them an Extra-Comfy Cat Bed

Senior cats may come with some joint issues, and movement may be more difficult, so having a comfy spot to lie down on is the perfect way for a kitty to relax, especially if their new bed is strategically placed in a warm ray of sunshine.

Give Your Senior Cat a Massage

Senior cats may be suffering from chronic pain due to old age, and a massage may help relieve that pain. While some vets offer this service, you can also give your cat a therapeutic massage at home.

Start by simply petting your cat from one end of their body to the other. This is called stroking, and you should use gentle to medium pressure down the length of your cat's body and limbs. Slowly increase the pressure of your strokes and feel for any tight muscles but be aware of your cat's reaction. If they are sore in spots, they may not appreciate the attention.

Other techniques include "petrissage," which involves kneading the muscles to relieve tension, and "chopping," which uses the side of your hand in a rapid chopping motion. Talk to your vet about your cat's needs and learn the proper massage techniques. We bet you'll love the massage sessions as much as your cat will.

Give Them Food Tailored for Senior Cats

What your cat eats plays a big role in how they feel as they age, and choosing senior cat food can make a meaningful difference. These formulas are designed to support joint health, digestion, immune strength, and weight management. Many senior diets include higher-quality protein to preserve muscle mass, controlled calories to prevent weight gain or loss, and added nutrients like omega-3 fatty acids for joint and cognitive support.

Before changing diets, talk with your veterinarian to determine the best nutritional plan. Some senior cats thrive on traditional senior formulas, while others may need prescription diets for kidney support, heart health, digestive issues, or weight control. Wet food can also be helpful, since it provides hydration and may be easier to chew if dental disease is present.

Feeding your older cat smaller, more frequent meals can help maintain steady energy and encourage consistent eating habits. Place bowls in easy-to-reach, quiet areas to avoid stress or strain. If your cat seems finicky, try warming their food slightly to bring out aroma and flavor, or ask your vet whether food toppers are safe for them.

Thoughtful feeding keeps aging cats nourished, energized, and comfortable, adding joy and vitality to their senior years.

Dedicate Daily Play Time

Keeping active is an important part of remaining healthy, and that is true for cats too. Dedicate time to play with your cat each day to get them moving, even for short periods of time. Find their favorite toy or game, and we bet you'll see more of your cat's younger self come out. Plus, consistent play helps keep energy levels up, which may help with your cat's overall health.

Keep Your Cat Mentally Stimulated

Play is important for your cat's physical health, but you'll also need to stimulate your cat's brain to keep their mind healthy. Strategy games and fun boards or other interactive toys are great ways to encourage your cat to use their mind.

Easy Access

Cats love to climb and explore, but as they age, reduced mobility may make that harder. Make sure all of their needs are easily accessible, including food, water, and litter boxes. If they have a favorite spot that requires climbing or stairs, consider adding a ramp or small steps to allow your cat to get there. Don't forget to give them a cozy, warm place to lounge, and consider a spot in front of a window where they can watch birds and snooze in the sunshine.

Adopt a Senior Cat

Senior cats make great companions, and there's no better time than now to give one a loving home. Click here to find senior cats in your area in need of eternal affection.

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SPOTLIGHT ON SENIOR CATS

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WINSTED
8 year old domestic cat from CGHS

MARY, 7.5 year old domestic cat CGHS

PATCHES is 10 years old and arrived here along with her housemate LILLY MAE They are looking for an indoor home together.

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OLLIE is 8 years old and he is FIV positive so he'll need to remain an indoor only cat.

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Natural Fun Facts

Did you know that . . .

Rabbits

- A single bunny is a lonely bunny.
- Domestic bunnies can live for up to 12 years.
- They're masters of hearing.
- Rabbits perform an athletic leap, known as a 'binky', when they're happy — performing twists and kicks in mid air!
- Baby rabbits are called 'kits'. Female rabbits are called 'does' and male rabbits are called 'bucks'.
- Rabbits are very social creatures that live in groups. They live in warrens — a series of tunnels and rooms that they dig underground.

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Which dog or cat breed matches your astrological sign?

You love your four-legged best bud—is it possible that your compatibility was written in the stars? Find your sign below to see if the stars predicted the right pet for you.

Aquarius… You're definitely one of a kind and creative, Aquarius! To match your quirky approach to life, you need a dog that barks to the beat of their own drum, like a Chinese Crested (they own that unique hairstyle!).

Pisces… Incredibly kind but also one of the most emotional signs. A cat that's ready to snuggle and offer some emotional support is ideal for you, Pisces. Try a Ragdoll—super fluffy and super affectionate!

Aries… A natural-born leader, you're ready to channel your passion to achieve your dreams, and you need a dog that can keep up! German shepherds share that same headstrong drive and determination.

Taurus… You love the finer things in life, and we don't blame you! That's why an Ashera cat would be the perfect complement to your life—beautiful, luxurious and rare, just like you, Taurus!

Gemini… You're naturally curious and energetic, you love meeting new people and are often the center of attention, Gemini. A Siamese cat is playful, friendly and able to win over anybody, just like you!

Cancer… Fiercely loyal, you're a true-blue friend and companion to those you love, Cancer. Chihuahuas are also very particular about the people they bond with and will do anything to protect you.

Leo… Generous, proud and warm-hearted, you have a strong and undeniable presence, Leo! The Abyssinian is the perfect cat, as they'll match your dignified nature and charm.

Virgo… You're one of the most hardworking signs, Virgo, and it shows in your many achievements! To match your focused nature, a working dog like a border collie is perfect for you.

Libra… Gentle and nurturing, you're often the friend that gives the best advice, Libra. Persian cats make ideal pets, with their sweet, affectionate nature and beautiful soft coat.

Scorpio… Passionate, strategic and unafraid, it's no doubt that you're a fire sign, Scorpio. Bengal cats are similar. They know what they want and are not afraid to get it. Respect!

Sagittarius… You're positive, engaged and have a magnetic charm that makes you irresistible. Always one for doing the right thing, you need a dog who will be loyal, yet fun—like a Jack Russell terrier!

Capricorn… Ambitious, practical and disciplined, you're like a dog with a bone when it comes to any goal you set your mind on. We suggest a dog that has that same mindset, like a Shiba Inu!

Every pet is unique and loveable—no matter your zodiac sign. When choosing your companion, your instincts are your best guide. *www.vcahospitals.com*

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Socks, pictured with CGHS/SPCA Animal Care Technician Aislin Brown, is a 10-year-old domestic shorthair who was surrendered to us after his owner became ill. He's a sweet and docile gentleman who would be a wonderful addition to almost any home. While calm and laid-back, he still shows flashes of playful kitten energy! Socks is a true lap cat and would thrive in a home where he can receive plenty of affection and attention.

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Potential Thanksgiving Dangers for Your Pet

By Bennett Glace

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. You can almost smell the turkey cooking in the oven and the scent of fresh pies wafting throughout the house. For humans, Thanksgiving is a wonderful day to eat and spend time with family and friends. A time to watch some football on TV or the Macy's Parade or maybe Planes, Trains, and Automobiles — for the 15th time.

But if you have pets or are hosting family members or friends that have pets, Thanksgiving can present some dangers that you need to be aware of. This post will present some common problems or emergencies that pets can encounter during Thanksgiving celebrations, as well as some tips for how to prevent them, and what to do if something happens.

Prevent Access to Countertops & Ovens

When you're cooking and preparing the Thanksgiving meal, you'll want to be careful about the food you're leaving on the countertops. Between setting the table, stirring the gravy, basting the turkey, and checking on the cornbread, you're not going to have the bandwidth to keep an eye on whether or not your cat or dog has jumped onto the countertop and gotten into some food.

It's best to prevent access to countertops entirely for your pets. Put Sparky and Mr. Kitty in the basement or in a bedroom while you're preparing supper. Animals correlate the smell of food with the taste and will be attracted to an enticing aroma in the same way that Uncle Bill is lured off the couch and into the kitchen to take a peek at what's cooking. Many of the foods that are served at Thanksgiving will also cause digestive issues for your pets.

In addition to the dangers that are present from pets eating Thanksgiving foods, there are dangers of getting too close to the hot stove and oven. The smell emitting from the stovetop will entice your pets to have a peek. Cats can get too close to the oven and burn themselves or singe their whiskers.

It's best to keep them out of harm's way and prevent them from the temptation of having a taste of your yummy-smelling food. Candles are also as risky as ovens and stovetops. Never leave your pet alone in a room with a burning candle. Pets can knock them over (especially curious cats), causing burns or house fires.

Dispose of Table Scraps

It can be tempting to give your pet a bite of your dinner, especially when they stare up at you with those adorable eyes. But during Thanksgiving, and any other meal, you'll want to be careful with table scraps. Not all table scraps are harmful to pets, but it's better to play it on the safe side. Small-breed dogs can be especially sensitive and develop a disease called pancreatitis, which is caused by eating food with high-fat content.

Here's where the questions pop up: can dogs eat turkey? The short answer is — yes, pets may have small amounts of plain, cooked turkey meat without bones or seasoning. But you also must ask: can dogs eat turkey bones? The answer there is a firm no. Bones from turkey (and many other meats) can splinter and cause choking, mouth or throat injuries, or intestinal damage.

So, if you feed any meat, make sure there aren't any bones present, and never give your pet turkey bones or allow them to gnaw on them for play. Sugary foods such as pies should especially be avoided.

Any dog owner knows that just because you throw some food away, that doesn't mean that your dog won't find a way to have a taste. Safely dispose of the turkey string and foil once you're finished with dinner – the string that wraps or ties turkey's legs is often haphazardly placed aside and found and eaten by dogs and cats.

The same danger exists with the plastic turkey wrapper. Ingestion of these indigestible items may require an unfortunate visit to an emergency veterinary clinic for life-saving surgery. Place string, aluminum foil, turkey wrappers, and especially turkey bones in a secure, covered trash can.

Inform Your Guests & Family Members

It's not enough for you as the pet owner to know about the potential dangers that linger during the holidays. It's important that everyone is in the loop. Make sure you communicate to all guests that they should avoid feeding table scraps to pets and help prevent animals from getting access to the kitchen.

Even the safest and most cautious group of Thanksgiving celebrators can't prevent all potential pet accidents. They're called accidents because they occur unexpectedly. You'll want to check with your vet ahead of time to see whether or not they're open during the holiday weekend. If their clinic is closed, ask for a recommendation to a veterinary clinic that is open during the holidays.

If something happens that requires you to take your pet to an urgent care facility during the holidays, you're going to want to have an action plan in place. Without a plan in place, you'll be frantically calling clinics or searching online to find one that is open. *www.petplace.com*

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Dog Wags-

Breeds from A to Z

CHINESE CRESTED

Dog of the Month

The Chinese Crested Dog is a hairless breed of dog. Like most hairless dog breeds, the Chinese Crested Dog comes in two varieties, without hair and with hair, which can be born in the same litter: the hairless and the powderpuff.
Happy and alert, these dogs make loving companions. They range in weight from five to 12 pounds (two to five kilograms) and stand from nine to 13 inches at the shoulder. A lively and loving dog, this toy breed can quickly capture the hearts of its guardians and become quite spoiled- The Chinese crested has a lifespan of 12 to 13 years.

The coated variety is called “Powderpuff”, and is a recognized type. At first look, the hairless and powderpuff varieties of Chinese Crested Dogs appear to be two different breeds. The Hairless has soft, humanlike skin, as well as tufts of hair on its paws (“socks”) and tail (“plume”) and long, flowing hair on its head (“crest”). The texture of all the hair is soft and silky, flowing to any length. The hairless variety can vary in amount of body hair.

The difference between a hairless with a copious amount of hair and a powderpuff is that the hairless has a single coat with hairless parts on the body, while the powderpuff has a thick double coat. The skin of the hairless comes in a variety of colors, ranging from a pale flesh to black. Hairless Chinese Crested Dogs often lack a full set of premolar teeth. The amount of body hair on the Hairless variety varies quite extensively, from the true hairless which has very little or no body hair to, if left ungroomed, often grows a near-full coat of hair.
The powder puff variety is completely covered with a double soft and silky coat. The coat is straight and of moderate density and length.

PAWOSCOPES

Monthly Dog & Cat Pawoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Scorpio
(October 23-November 22)

Scorpio is the second water sign; this sign rules the will. Scorpios are by far the strongest members of the zodiac. Pets born under this sign are willful, stubborn, and intelligent. They are also mischievous and have an insatiable curiosity.

DOGS-Like Scorpio humans, Scorpio canines are private, tend to make serious eye contact, and seem to be able to read your thoughts. They love being loyal to one person. It takes them a while to build trust, but when they do, you have a friend and an ally for life. Mysterious and intense. Scorpio dogs are fiercely loyal and intuitive. They pick up on moods and may seem distant to strangers—but total goofballs once they trust you.

CATS-The Scorpio cat is determined and focused. Whether it’s a mouse that needs to be chased or a sunbeam that’s calling for a bedfellow, the Scorpio cat will perform the task with unrelenting resolve. They’re also passionate about everything they do, as intense at playing and having fun as they are at bathing themselves. They will focus on whatever they’re doing or on an object of their desire with unbroken concentration – or until they hear a can of tuna being opened. https://keringa.com/cat-astrology/

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